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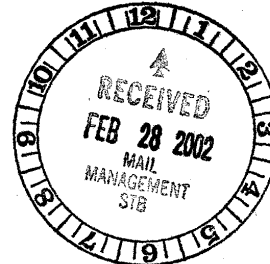
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February 28, 2002

VIA FACSIMILE 202-565-9004
AND AIRBORNE EXPRESS

Mr. Vernon A. Williams, Secretary
Surface Transportation Board
Mercury Building
1925 K Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20423

ENTERED
Office of the Secretary
FEB 28 2002
Part of
Public Record



Re: STB Docket No. AB-55 (Sub-No. 588X)
CSX Transportation, Inc. - Abandonment
Exemption in McMinn County and Polk County, Tennessee

Dear Mr. Williams:

CSX Transportation, Inc. ("CSXT") has reviewed the Post Environmental Assessment in the above captioned matter. CSXT has no objection to the additional environmental conditions suggested by the Section of Environmental Analysis. CSXT is hopeful that the acceptance of these conditions will expedite the Board's decision in this matter. As you know, CSXT filed a Petition to Reopen Proceeding Held in Abeyance on November 9, 2001.

As CSXT has indicated throughout this abandonment proceeding, CSXT is more than willing to cooperate with the Tennessee SHPO and the Forest Service. CSXT would like to draw the Board's attention to the fact that the Forest Service has indicated in writing that CSXT should be permitted to proceed with the abandonment process.

By this letter, CSXT would also like to reaffirm certain representations made in its Petition to Reopen. Specifically, if the Old Line Railroad Coalition (the "Coalition") files an OFA, CSXT would be willing to sell the line for net liquidation value and leave the track materials in place for a period of six months from the service date of a Board decision approving the abandonment in order to allow the Coalition time to obtain funding. Additionally, if no OFA is filed, CSXT would consider donating a portion of the right-of-way to the Coalition for trail use.

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Thank you for your consideration this matter. Please feel free to contact my office if you have any questions.

Very truly yours,


Natalie S. Rosenberg

NSR/pkw

cc: Ms. Dana White
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Mr. David Konschnik, Director
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